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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/072,804	SUGINO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tarifur R Chowdhury	2871	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--
 All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 07/26/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-5, 11-14, 20-22 and 28-40.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 08 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 2-5, 11-14, 20-22 and 28-40 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior arts of record do not anticipate or render obvious to one skilled in the art a polarizing plate comprising a polarizer or a liquid crystal display comprising a polarizer wherein all surfaces and sides of the polarizer are covered with low moisture-permeable layers having a permeability of 310 g/m².24h or less, and each of the layers has a thickness of 40 μ m or less, wherein a rate of change in dimension of the polarizer in a uniaxially stretching direction is \pm 0.1% or less after the polarizer is left at a temperature of 60° C and humidity of 95% for 100 hours or after the polarizing plate is formed into a size of 90 mm * 90 mm and attached to a plastic cell having a size of 100 mm * 100 mm and a thickness of 400 micro meters, the plastic cell comprising at least one selected from the thermoplastic resin and a thermosetting resin, and when the cell is left at a temperature of 60° C and a humidity of 95% for 100 hours, an amount of warping at each of four corners of the cell is \pm 3.0 mm or less, including all other recitation of the base claim.

The closest reference JP 60-083903 discloses a polarizer wherein the top and bottom surfaces of the polarizer are covered with low moisture-permeable layers having a permeability of 100 g/m².24h. The reference also discloses that the sides of the polarizer are covered with seal material having low-moisture permeability. Further, USPAT 6,320,042 discloses a protective film covering the surfaces of the polarizer wherein the typical thickness of the protective layer is in between 20 μ m to 60 μ m.

However, all of the prior art references alone or in combination fail to teach or suggest that a rate of change in dimension of the polarizer in a uniaxially stretching direction is $\pm 0.1\%$ or less after the polarizer is left at a temperature of 60°C and humidity of 95% for 100 hours or that after the polarizing plate is formed into a size of 90 mm * 90 mm and attached to a plastic cell having a size of 100 mm * 100 mm and a thickness of 400 micro meters, the plastic cell comprising at least one selected from the thermoplastic resin and a thermosetting resin, and when the cell is left at a temperature of 60°C and a humidity of 95% for 100 hours, an amount of warping at each of four corners of the cell is $\pm 3.0\text{ mm}$ or less

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

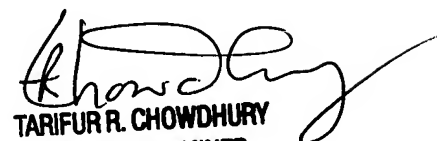
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tarifur R Chowdhury whose telephone number is (571) 272-2287. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (6:30-5:00) Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Kim can be reached on (571) 272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TRC
August 02, 2004


TARIFUR R. CHOWDHURY
PRIMARY EXAMINER